Further NACO was utilising 150 seconds of Free Commercial Time offered between the programme for airing various spots on AIDS messages developed by NACO. These spots were being aired on prime time. Considering the large Free Commercial Time available to NACO, the cost of buying these spots directly from Doordarshan, would have been much higher than the telecast charges paid to Doordarshan. Hence, the programme was a cost effective strategy for airing messages on AIDS on the prime time of Doordarshan.

Awareness is generated on a cumulative basis with inputs from many sources. Similarly, controlling the AIDS problem requires a multi dimensional approach in which IEC forms a very integral part. The nationwide general population Behavioural Surveillance Survey (BSS) conducted by ORG in 2001, has revealed that Television is the most watched media in the country with 64.5% of the people watching it at least once a month. It may be also noted that HIV/AIDS awareness in terms of having heard of the disease has increased from 40.3% among females (NFHS-1998-99) to 70% (BSS-2001) at the national level.

Manipulating the PGI Act

†*567. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that members of Parliament and PGI Employees Union, Chandigarh have drawn his attention regarding the present Director, PGI, Chandigarh who has shown the age as 62 years in place of 60 years in the notification by manipulating the PGI Act and the decision of Governing Body; and

(b) if so, the officer responsible for mis-recording the decision and whether any action has been taken against him?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Complaints were received alleging that Professor S.K. Sharma, Professor of Urology at PGIMER, Chandigarh, was appointed Director, PGIMER, Chandigarh, on 2.3.2000 upto the superannuation age of 62 years instead of 60 years. The Institute Body of PGIMER, Chandigarh, in its meeting held on 5.1.2000 approved the recommendations of the Special Selection Committee to appoint Professor S.K. Sharma as Director, PGIMER, Chandigarh, for a term of five years or till he attains the age of superannuation, whichever is earlier. The superannuation age of the members of the teaching faculty of

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

the PGIMER, Chandigarh, was raised from 60 to 62 years in PGIMER, Chandigarh, vide PGIMER Chandigarh notification dated 24.2.1999 and accordingly, Professor S.K. Sharma, who was selected to the post of Director from the teaching faculty was appointed upto to the age of 62 years and this was done by Central Government under Rule 7(3) of PGIMER 1967 with the approval of Appointment Committee of the Cabinet. Hence, there is no irregularity in the appointment of Professor S.K. Sharma, as Director, PGIMER, Chandigarh.

Letter of Intent to Dr. Somervel Memorial CSI Hospital, Kerala

*568. PROF M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been irregularities concerning inspection report and issue of Letter of Intent to Dr. Somervel Memorial CSI Hospital in Karakonam, Kerala by Medical Council of India (MCI);

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken against the erring officials;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) The Ministry has not received any recommendation for issue of Letter of Intent (LOI) for establishing the medical college from the Medical Council of India. Medical Council of India has now informed us that there was an inadvertent omission on the part of the Inspector concerned in reporting the availability of beds in the Hospital. As a result, the Executive Committee at its meeting held on 31.1.2002 did not recommend the case. Subsequently, on the omission coming to light, the facilities were reinspected. On this occasion, the bed distribution was found to be correct. The Government will take necessary action as and when the recommendations of the Medical Council of India in this regard are received.

The Inspector concerned who had made the mistake has since left the service on his own request.

Violation of Master Plan of Delhi

*569. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no check on construction of new Government buildings in the green vistas, as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated the 19th April, 2002;